



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Mid-week demand was lighter, ranging fair to fairly good, best for retail ads, fast food promotions, and into resort locations. Supplies were adequate to well cleared with smaller sizes tight in the West. Plant schedules are mixed with some Saturday kill planned and a few down Monday for Memorial Day. In the parts structure, trading was active to moderate, but slowed where needs had been met; availability was balanced to well cleared and continued to move. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .50 to 65.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 63.75 cents last year on May 22, 2002.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

DOCK PRICE

ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	194.00
BREASTS - B/S	176.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	96.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	68.00
LEG QUARTERS	24.00
WINGS	73.00

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was at least steady to firm. Demand was fair to fairly good with active trading. Supplies were sufficient to well cleared and moving well. Delivery problems were still prominent due to seasonal truck shortages. In the parts structure, availability was no more than adequate, closest for breast items, with interest in a full range. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was moderate and noted as typical of midweek trading. Offerings were mixed in availability, however, the 3 pound sizes were usually in the best balance. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair to moderate. The market tone was fully steady. In the parts complex, breast items remained in good balance. Dark meat cuts continued to clear well. Tenderloins were limited in availability.

MIDWEST The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady to fully steady, instances firm. Additional offerings remained limited but in line with current trade needs. Retail and food service movement ranged fair to fairly good; best into retail features, fast food promotions and resort areas. Floor stocks were closely balanced to fully adequate. Weights were mostly in a desirable range. Supplies were irregular in accessibility, but noted as tight overall. Buyer interest was intermittent as most have immediate needs covered. The market tone was steady on wings and steady to fully steady, undertone firm on other parts.

WESTERN The market tone was fully steady to firm. Offerings were tight on whole body product under 4 pounds and adequate overall on heavier weights. Retailer demand was moderate to good best to cover the upcoming Memorial Day holiday needs. Floor stocks were in good balance.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

19 STATES			PERCENT CHANGE
WEEK ENDING 05/17/03	2003	2002	PREVIOUS YEAR
EGGS SET	209,019	213,431	-02
CHICKS PLACED	170,022	171,004	-01

BROILER EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 209 million eggs in incubators during the week ending May 17, 2003. This was down 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

CHICKS PLACED DOWN 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 170 million chicks for meat production during the week ending May 17, 2003. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through May 17, 2003 were 3.34 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 28-Jun-03 IS ESTIMATED AT 156.7 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 157.2 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 161.2 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 163.1 MILLION HEAD AND THE COMPOSITE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 58.37 CENTS PER POUND.

MAY 20, 2003

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAY 21, 2003

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	928	159.00-250.00	159-165	171.21
TENDERLOINS	236	157.00-195.00	157-159	159.15
BREAST - LINE RUN	93	92.00-95.00	93-95	93.22
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	92	27.00-39.00	28-29	29.80
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	591	21.00-23.00	22	21.92
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,110	23.00-28.00	24-25	24.69
WINGS (WHOLE)	101	69.00-73.00	70-72	71.16
WINGS (CUT)	551	82.00-91.00	82-85	84.04
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	923	159.00-249.00	159-164	165.66
TENDERLOINS	235	155.00-211.00	155-158	164.02
BREAST - LINE RUN	118	93.00-105.00	93-97	95.37
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	128	27.00-39.00	27-29	29.00
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	591	21.00-23.00	22	21.92
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,110	23.00-28.00	24-25	24.71
WINGS (WHOLE)	281	69.00-73.00	-	72.34
WINGS (CUT)	632	82.00-91.00	83-85	83.87
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE 51.00 - 54.50
TODAY'S AVERAGE 52.80

RANGE 48.50 - 54.00
TODAY'S AVERAGE 51.06
5-DAY AVERAGE 51.82

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was moderate and noted as more typical of midweek trading. Offerings of breast items remained balanced. Dark meat cuts continued to clear well. Tenderloins were still seeing active interest. Retail and distributive movement was mostly fair to moderate. The market tone was fully steady.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES MAY 20, 2003

MAY 21, 2003

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	170-175	168.46	702,090
TENDERLOINS	155-160	157.04	170,540
BREAST - WITH RIBS	91-92	98.38	271,982
BREAST - LINE RUN	91	96.25	86,520
LEGS	34-35	32.43	283,520
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	26-27	25.56	529,184
DRUMSTICKS	26-27	29.48	241,920
THIGHS	27-28	35.20	80,140
B/S THIGHS	64-65	67.28	120,830
WINGS (WHOLE)	66-67	71.17	207,300
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.23	37,400
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25-30	26.52	18,010
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35-40	41.56	31,564

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	170-175	169.72	495,270
TENDERLOINS	155-160	159.88	125,400
BREAST - WITH RIBS	91-92	99.10	198,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	91	95.60	123,840
LEGS	34-35	34.55	228,400
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	26-27	24.84	533,103
DRUMSTICKS	26-27	32.00	117,400
THIGHS	27-28	32.95	89,520
B/S THIGHS	65-66	70.88	99,440
WINGS (WHOLE)	66-67	73.34	230,840
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.82	39,040
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25-30	26.14	14,560
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35-40	40.15	21,320

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED				ACTUAL				AVG WTS	AVG WTS
	05/21	05/20	05/19	05/16	05/19	05/16	05/14	05/12		
ALA	3,967	3,979	3,887	3,981	5.27	5.03	3,958	5.21		
ARK	5,291	5,222	5,243	4,660	5.06	4.87	5,092	5.10		
DELMARVA	2,409	2,400	2,380	2,485	5.29	5.27	2,370	5.18		
KY-LA-TN	1,967	1,933	1,914	1,924	4.93	4.83	1,954	4.94		
MISS	2,859	2,957	2,962	2,463	5.43	5.17	2,844	5.26		
NC	2,490	2,599	2,593	2,659	6.24	6.10	2,428	6.07		
TEXAS	2,470	2,472	2,472	3,154	4.93	4.97	2,433	5.00		
TOTAL	21,453	21,562	21,451	21,393	5.29	5.15	21,079	5.24		
MON-WED	64,672(A)				63,647(A)					

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 21-May 03 and is estimated to be 32,096,000 up 1.47 percent from a week ago and up 1.7 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,631,000; last year 31,553,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	88-94
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-95
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	63
DUCKS	-
RABBITS-WHOLE	-
RABBITS-CUT UP	-

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	97-99
	DRY PACK	104-105
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-105
	DRY PACK	113
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91-98
	DRY PACK	-
DUCKS		155-166

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 24-MAY-03

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	05/24/03 (1)	05/17/03
THOUSAND HEAD		
BRO-FRY	163,640 (2)	158,662
LT HENS	1,770	1,626
HVY HENS	1,514	1,394
CHECK TOTAL	166,924	161,682

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 24-May-03 is 158.4 million head compared to 161.8 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 164.0 million head or 5.6 million more than estimated available. For week of 31-May-03 the estimated available is 158.0 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY		PROCESSED POULTRY	
	LBS		LBS	
AM 05/19/03	198,485		61,970	
AM 05/01/03	190,005		62,870	
CHG	8,480		-900	
PCT CHG	4		-1	

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	5/19/03	5/12/03	5/20/02	5/19/03	5/12/03	5/20/02
PACIFIC COAST	11,857	12,030	19,839	7,050	7,624	4,147
LOS ANGELES	128	136	346	3,023	3,375	2,606

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF MAY 19, 2003

HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	RANGE
		58-64
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	62-79

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

	LOW HIGH AVG			FOR 5/20/03		
	LOW	HIGH	AVG	LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	-	1.55	-	HEAVY FOWL ea.	3.00	7.00
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	5.25
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	1.50	5.00
BROILERS lb.	.55	.60	.58	BROILERS ea.	1.50	2.25
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	1.25	4.50
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	6.75	8.00
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	1.40	2.00	1.71	ROOSTERS ea.	3.25	9.50
GEESE lb.	-	.65	-	GEESE ea.	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	.25	.45	.37	TURKEYS ea.	4.00	4.50
DUCKS lb.	.50	2.00	.95	DUCKS ea.	-	5.50
RABBITS lb.	.60	2.35	1.81	RABBITS ea.	5.75	7.00
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.00	6.00
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	10.50	12.25
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	2.50	4.50
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	3.50	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-

TOTAL COOPS 148

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending May 16, 2003

	Whole	Legs	Necks, Backs	Livers/
	Chickens	Breasts	W/ Thighs	& Wings
RAYON				
Low	59.20	131.56	70.17	17.54
High	63.59	140.33	78.94	21.93
Mostly	61.40	140.33	78.94	21.93

SAN JUAN

Low	60.08	135.95	78.94	19.73	13.16	54.82
High	63.59	144.72	96.48	24.12	17.54	54.82
Mostly	61.40	140.33	87.71	21.93	14.47	54.82

NEW SAN JUAN

Low	59.20	131.56	74.55	17.54	17.54	59.20
High	63.15	140.33	78.94	21.93	21.93	59.20
Mostly	61.40	140.33	78.94	21.93	17.54	59.20

BECERRA

Low	59.64	131.56	83.32	21.93	13.16	52.63
High	63.15	140.33	92.09	26.31	17.54	52.63
Mostly	62.27	135.95	87.71	24.12	15.35	52.63

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was generally noted as quiet, on the slow side, and typical of the normal lighter mid-week activity. Seller offerings varied from adequate to well cleared. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processor schedules were moderately heavy. Early reports reflect most plants planning to suspend operations on Monday, Memorial Day and a few slated to operate on this upcoming Saturday. Less than trucklot asking prices were 1 cent higher at 57 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to full steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate to closely cleared.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

**BRANDED
U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE	53-69
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	58.97
NO. OF BOXES	9,504

*8 of 8 plants reporting.

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